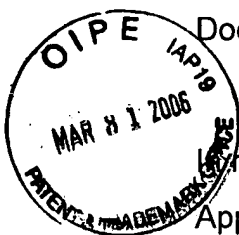


AF 27W



Docket No. TIP487US

TI-36657

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re **PATENT** application of:

Applicant: David A. Stark *et al.*

Application No.: 10/696,623

For: CHEMICAL MECHANICAL POLISHING SYSTEM

Filing Date: October 29, 2003

Examiner: Maurina T. Rachuba

Art Unit: 3723

REPLY TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED JANUARY 27, 2006

Mail Stop AF
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Favorable reconsideration of the above-identified application is respectfully requested in view of the following amendments and remarks.